



**Service of the Parliament of Montenegro  
Section for Research, Analysis, Library and Documentation**

Research paper:  
**Statistical data on the work of parliaments**

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*\* The contents of this document do not reflect the official views of the Parliament of Montenegro*

## Foreword

This paper presents a comparative review of data related to the work of parliaments during plenary sessions and meetings of the working bodies. The presented data covers information about twenty parliaments (Austria - both chambers, Belgium - both chambers, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Israel, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Hungary, Macedonia, Slovenia, United States - both chambers), including Montenegro. The paper was drafted based on the data gathered from a questionnaire<sup>1</sup> submitted by the Parliament of the Republic of Ireland through the ECPRD Network, in January 2012.

The data presented in tabular form are related to the duration of parliamentary sittings (in days and hours), and the number and duration of meetings of working bodies. A comparison was also made with regards to the data showing the number of MPs and the number of employees, as well as the total number of adopted laws (some countries have provided data on the total number of adopted acts). For better overview of the data, the second part of the paper also contains information regarding the length of the plenary sittings and the length of meetings of working bodies.

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<sup>1</sup> ECPRD Request No. 1909 *Parliamentary Statistics for 2011 of the latest parliamentary year for which figures are available*, January 19, 2012

**STATISTICAL DATA ON THE WORK OF PARLIAMENT AND ITS WORKING BODIES IN 2011**

COUNTRY	Number of MPs	Duration of plenary sittings in days	Duration of plenary sittings in hours	Number of working bodies	Number of meetings of working bodies	Duration of meetings of working bodies in hours	Total number of acts adopted	Number of employees
<b>MONTENEGRO</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>350h 25 min</b>	<b>11 standing committees and a commission</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>532h 36 min</b>	<b>240 (156 laws, amendments to laws and constitutional acts; 84 other acts)</b>	<b>122 in the Service; 19 hired by the Parliament to work in MP Groups (as of 21 Sep. 2011 number unknown)</b>
<b>AUSTRIA (Lower Chamber)</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>304h 45 min</b>	<b>32 standing committees, one inquiry committee and 15 sub-committees</b>	<b>162 committee meetings and 43 sub-committee meetings</b>	<b>483h 6 min</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>400 in the Service and 220 parliamentary associates</b>
<b>AUSTRIA (Upper Chamber)</b>	<b>62/6 (provided for by law/ currently)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>93h 56 min</b>	<b>22 committees</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>BELGIUM (Chamber of Representatives)</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>162h 47 min</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>1.679h 15 min</b>	<b>122 (45 of which were MP proposals, and 77 were Government proposals )</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>BELGIUM (Senate)</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>74h 55 min</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>631h</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>364 - Service; 261-political staff; 18-restaurant staff.</b>
<b>BUNDESRAT (Upper Chamber of the German Parliament)</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>52h</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>190 in the Service</b>
<b>DENMARK</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>717h 58 min</b>	<b>25 standing committees</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>230 laws</b>	<b>394- the Service; 380- MP Groups; 22-restaurant staff</b>

COUNTRY	Number of MPs	Duration of plenary sittings in days	Duration of plenary sittings in hours	Number of working bodies	Number of meetings of working bodies	Duration of meetings of working bodies in hours	Total number of acts adopted	Number of employees
ESTONIA	101	104	242h 48 min	11 standing committees and three select committees	595 standing committee meetings and 76 select committee meetings	-	152 <sup>2</sup>	230 (182-Service; 16 –Assistants; 32-MP Groups)
CROATIA	151	70	404h	29	321	-	320	228 permanent employees in the Service, 9 permanent employees in MP Groups
IRELAND (House of the Oireachtas)	166 in the Lower chamber and 60 in Upper chamber	189 (Lower chamber-108 and Upper chamber- 81)	1,333h (Lower chamber - 836h, Upper chamber-497h)	21	316	542h	42	375 in the Service, 453 in MP Groups; 41 in the restaurant
ICELAND	63	114 <sup>3</sup>	800h <sup>4</sup>	12 standing committees during 139 <sup>th</sup> convocation; 8 standing committees by the end of this convocation <sup>5</sup>	785 standing committee meetings (768 meetings in the 139 <sup>th</sup> convocation)	1,224h (1,206h in 139 <sup>th</sup> convocation)	136 (during 139 <sup>th</sup> convocation)	109 in the Service and 7 employees in MP Groups
ITALY (Lower chamber)	630	153 (Lower Chamber); 21 joint sittings	743h 10 min; 60h 43 min –joint sittings	14 standing committees	4,228	2,028h 30 min	70 laws	1,641 in the Service

<sup>2</sup> Amendments to laws, Budget Law, resolutions, Law on Amendments to the Constitution

<sup>3</sup> The data cover the period from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011 (139<sup>th</sup> Convocation)

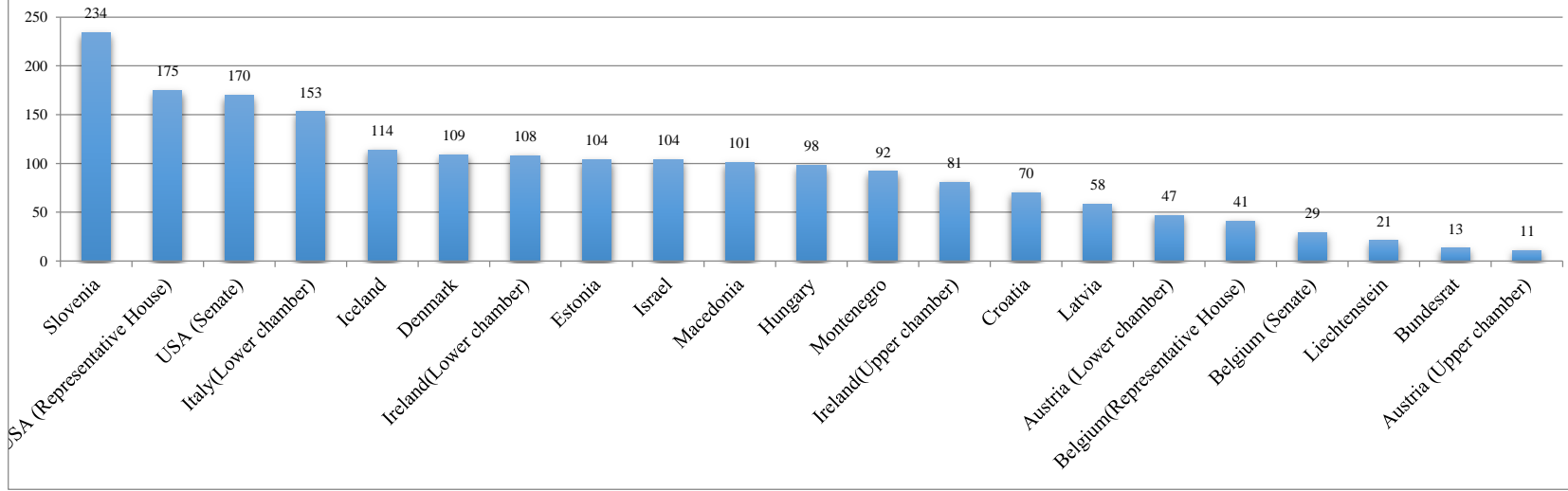
<sup>4</sup> The data cover the period from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011 (139<sup>th</sup> Convocation)

<sup>5</sup> 139<sup>th</sup> Convocation covers the period from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011

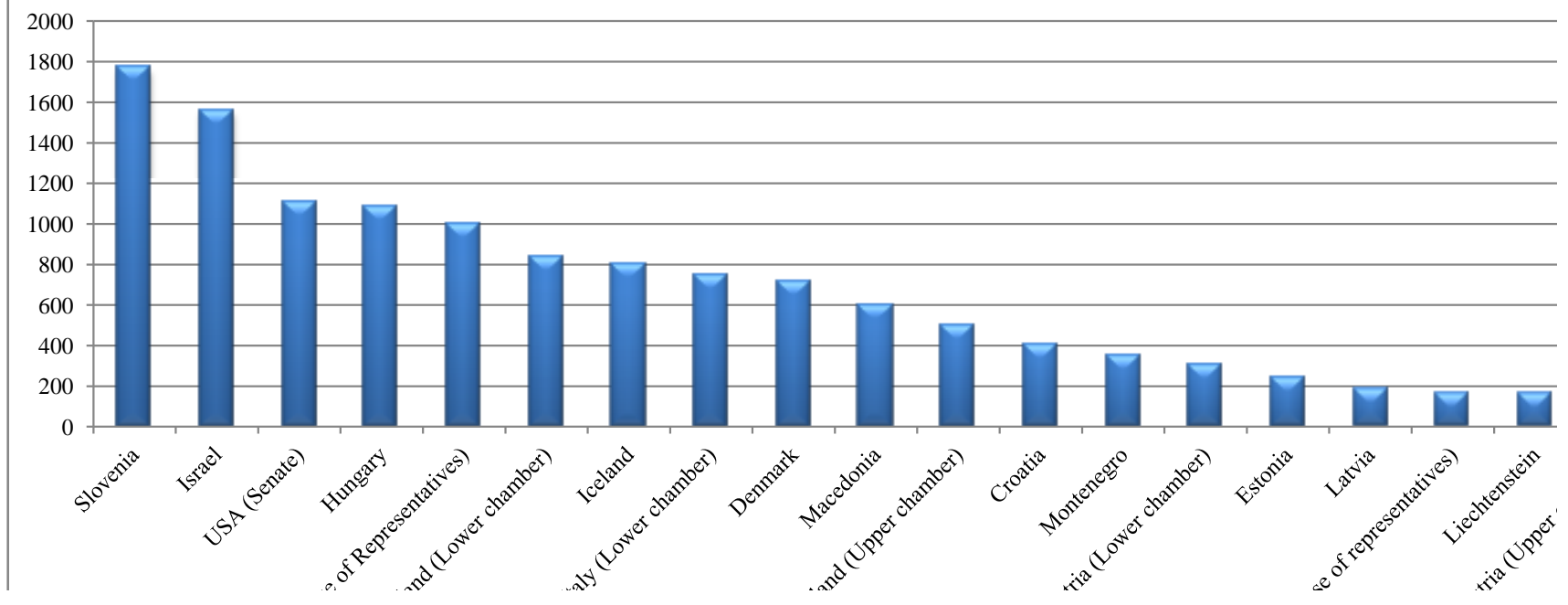
COUNTRY	Number of MPs	Duration of plenary sittings in days	Duration of plenary sittings in hours	Number of working bodies	Number of meetings of	Duration of meetings of working bodies in hours	Total number of acts adopted	Number of employees
ISRAEL	120	104	1,560h	12 permanent committees, 4 special committees, Public Committee for Rules of Ethics, and one parliamentary inquiry committee	-	-	171	543 in the Service; 196 - the Security
LATVIA	100	58	183h 20 min	16	1,024 <sup>6</sup>	-	255	376
LIECHTENSTEIN	25	21	160h	14	128	-	68	-
HUNGARY	386	98	1,079h 5 min	20 permanent committees	748	1026h 41 min	215	624 in the Service; 227 in MP Groups
MACEDONIA	123	101	599h 45 min	21	307	-	505	267 in the Service; 22 in MP Groups; 25 restaurant staff
SLOVENIA		234	1,769h	14 committees and 8 commissions	405	775h 32 min	149 laws	
USA (House of Representatives)	434	175	992h	20	~ 2,500	-	80	9,800
USA (Senate)	100	170	1,101h	16 + 4 special committees, and 4 joint committees (House of Representatives and the Senate)		-		6,100

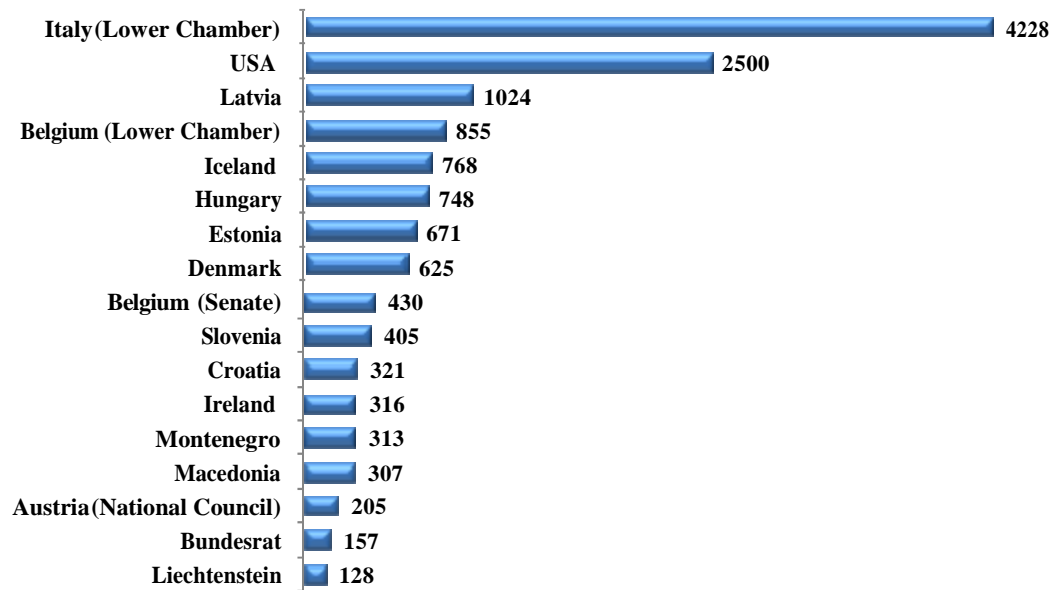
<sup>6</sup> Number of meetings of sub-committees is not included.

### *Duration of parliament sittings in days*



### *Duration of parliament sittings in hours*





*Number of meetings of working bodies*

*Duration of meetings of working bodies in hours*

